

TEMPLE EMANU-EL Bulletin

Volume 79, Number 13

November 24, 2006

UPCOMING EVENTS

TIKKUN OLAM: Stitch'n Time
Sunday, December 3 11 a.m.

Calling all knitters and crocheters! **Stitch'n Time**, one of the new activities organized through our Tikkun Olam program, needs you! We are working on two projects: clothes and accessories for babies born at the Maternal Child Health Division of Beth Israel Hospital and blanket squares for the "Sanctuary Blanket" project of The Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services. Attend our group session or work at home. We will meet in the Women's Auxiliary lounge. Refreshments will be served. (212) 744-1400, ext. 452



SABBATH SERVICES

Friday evening, December 1
Main Sanctuary

Organ Recital—5 p.m.
Sabbath Eve Service—5:15 p.m.
WQXR Radio (96.3 FM) and Internet
(www.wqxr.com) broadcasts—5:30 p.m.

Saturday morning, December 2
Women's Auxiliary Lounge

Torah Study—9:15 a.m.
Main Sanctuary
Service—10:30 a.m.
Torah Portion—Vayetze
Readings—Genesis 28:10-32:3
Hosea 12:13-14:10
Sermon: Rabbi Amy B. Ehrlich

PLEASE
JOIN US!

Friday,
December 1
6:30 p.m.



Don't miss the first of our new monthly *Shabbat Shalom!* worship services open to the entire congregation. Developed as a new expression of faith at Temple Emanu-El, the *Shabbat Shalom!* service will make use of a newly designed prayer book that features familiar melodies from our heritage as well as new ones that will create a dynamic and refreshing approach to prayer. Throughout this warm and inviting service, we'll engage the meaning of prayer and find ways to make it our own.

Shabbat Shalom! is a late service that will be held in the Stettenheim Library, which will be transformed into our own sacred space. Enter at the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65th Street. Please mark your calendars for these additional dates:

**January 5, February 2,
March 2, April 13 and May 4.**

Questions? Call the Temple Office.
(212) 744-1400, ext. 215

**SONG * PRAYER *
COMMUNITY**

PULPIT FLOWERS

Pulpit flowers at Sabbath services this weekend are the generous donation of our congregants:

Marguerite and Elliot Brownstein
in memory of *Sol and Irene Brownstein*
and *Eva and Benjamin L. Sherman*,
with all our love forever

The Harteveldt Family
in loving memory of
Henry H. Harteveldt, Jr. and
Lucile S. Harteveldt

Emily Fisher Landau
in loving memory of her sons,
Richard L. Fisher and *M. Anthony Fisher*

Susan and David Rahm
in loving memory of
Selma Wiener Berkman

Dr. Virginia Sadock
in loving memory of her father,
Fred Alcott

TO BE NOTED

Do you need a menorah for Chanukah? How about a Seder plate for Passover? Maybe a kiddish cup...or necklaces from Israel? The Women's Auxiliary is offering these and other interesting items for sale: **November 28** through **December 1**, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Have a cup of coffee and see what goodies you want! Enter at the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65th Street. (212) 744-1400, ext. 235

The Cemeteries of Congregation Emanu-El Salem Fields and Beth-El

A limited number of above-ground crypts are available in our community mausoleum. For information, please call Dr. Mark W. Weisstuch at the Temple Office, (212) 744-1400.

Charles S. Salomon

The Universal Funeral Chapel

1076 Madison Avenue (212) 753-5300
Our service is available in the Temple, home, or our Chapel.

**SUNDAY
SEMINARS**

All seminars are held
from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Coffee and bagels are served.
Enter at One East 65th Street.
To register, call (212) 507-9580
or log on to our Web site at
www.adultjewishlearning.org.
Cost is \$50 per session.

DECEMBER 3
**The First Modern
Jew: The Life and
Times of Moses
Mendelssohn**



*Dr. Edward
Breuer*

Examine the difficulties of reconciling Jewish particularism and Western universalism, as evidenced by the life and times of Moses Mendelssohn (1729–1786). A learned Jew, a first-rate European intellectual and an early campaigner for Jewish civil rights, Mendelssohn lived at a time when the promises and pitfalls of modern Jewish living barely were visible. He struggled to harmonize his universal and enlightened ideas with the particularism and parochialism of Judaism. As a charming, humble and brilliant man, Moses Mendelssohn served as a heroic figure who never ceased to challenge and inspire.

DR. EDWARD BREUER, a native of Montreal, teaches Jewish history at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Before moving to Israel, he taught at the University of Pennsylvania and Loyola University Chicago.

SKIRBALL



The Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Temple Emanu-El

STORIES FROM THE RESTORATION

FOR MORE THAN FIVE YEARS, the restoration team from Tishman Interiors has occupied a ninth floor office space in the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House. In December, New York Construction magazine will honor Temple Emanu-El and the work coordinated by Tishman Interiors with an award for “Best of 2006” in the field of rehabilitation, renovation and restoration. Our series continues with Project Manager Jana Rosalino, Project Executive Ignazio Artale and Project Superintendent John Millen.

In general, what are the most challenging aspects of undertaking a project of this type and scope? What stands out, in particular, as the most difficult part of this project?

JANA ROSALINO:

Most people don't realize that while the actual physical work on the sanctuaries took two years, there was also two to three years of pre-construction activity...two years of research, two years of getting the right people in here, two years of testing. There was also an infrastructure renovation that involved bringing air conditioning to the Main Sanctuary...lighting upgrades...new copper on the roof over the chapel.

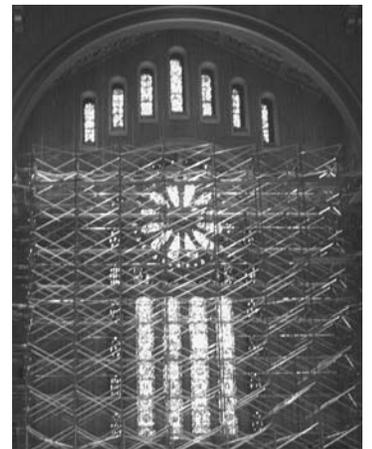
IGGY ARTALE: The materials restoration was very intense. There are painted surfaces, stone and marble, fabrics, stained glass, acoustical tiles...and we had to find the appropriate way to restore each of those materials back to their original state. But once we studied the options and researched them, the actual work went extremely smooth.



IGNAZIO ARTALE AND JANA ROSALINO IN THE TISHMAN FIELD OFFICE AT TEMPLE EMANU-EL

JOHN MILLEN:

There also was the issue of access to the space. Four different designs of scaffolding were analyzed...which took eight to 10 weeks to install and four weeks to take down. Structural engineers had to be brought in to make sure we didn't compromise the integrity of the floor. And, we had to make sure services for everyday operation (such as electricity, water and lighting) were kept going.

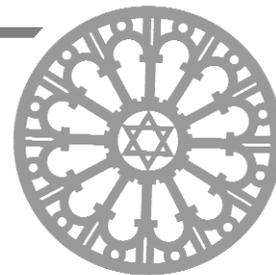


SCAFFOLDING IN THE MAIN SANCTUARY

What did you learn from this project that might be applied to other projects down the line?

JR: While I've been involved in construction for many years, this was my first restoration project. I quickly came to realize that I essentially had to throw away everything I had learned about construction. Restoration is such a different process, and there was so much testing by the whole development team. Everything was a new experience.

IA: None of us realized the art of scheduling operations. Planning and coordination of pre-construction definitely pays off.



SANCTUARY REVEALED: RESTORATION OF AN ARCHITECTURAL ICON

IN CONJUNCTION with our Sanctuary Rededication on Friday, December 15, the Herbert & Eileen Bernard Museum of Judaica will launch a new exhibition chronicling the construction and restoration of Temple Emanu-El. Begun in 1927 and completed two years later, the Temple building was the crowning achievement of the descendants of those German-Jewish immigrants who first formed Emanu-El in 1845. The preservation project has proven to be as much a spiritual regeneration as it has been a repairing and cleaning of masonry, metal and glass.

Congregants may participate in an exclusive preview of the exhibit after the Rededication Service on December 15. The exhibit opens to the public on December 17 and runs through April 16, 2007. For more information, call Senior Curator Elka Deitsch at (212) 744-1400, ext. 259. Museum hours are Sunday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



Photo by Brian Rose

**JOHN
MILLEN
ON THE
"DANCE
FLOOR"
ATOP THE
SANCTUARY
SCAFFOLDING**



JM: That's for sure! There were days when I felt like I was an orchestra conductor...with one group of workers coming in and another group going out.

What will you remember most about this project?

IA: When the first wave of stained-glass windows came back and the sun shone through them, the effect the different colors had on the sanctuary was amazing.

JR: That took my breath away and will never leave my mind. Even now, I'll be walking down the aisle and stop to watch the prisms.

JM: There are also the seven menorah windows at Fifth Avenue. We cleaned and repainted that area, and the windows were repaired. But the thing that really makes that end glow are some very simple spotlights shining up. I love that something so simple did so much.

What makes you most proud?

IA: A project like this doesn't come across very often, and it was an honor for us to be a part of it. Despite the challenges, no one ever gave up and said it couldn't be done.

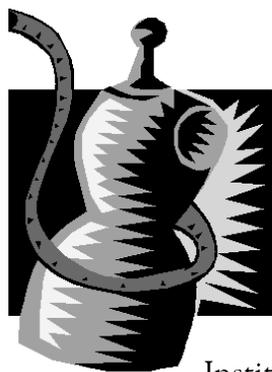
JM: To have such a key role in a project of this nature is a privilege. A career only lasts so long, but hopefully this piece of history will be here for generations to come.

JR: The passion and dedication of everyone involved was very evident. This was definitely a labor of love.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CLUB 56 & CLUB 78:
Chanukah Party
Saturday, December 2
6:45 p.m.

Members are invited to join us for a ceramic-painting party at MAKE (1566 Second Avenue, between 81st and 82nd streets (212) 570-6868). Snacks and ice cream will be served. Cost is \$30 per person. Drop off and pick up is at MAKE. For more information, contact Youth Group Advisor Lori Jacobson. (516) 965-4736 youth.emanuel@gmail.com



**From Seventh Avenue
to Project Runway**
Tuesday, December 5
10 a.m.

The Women's Auxiliary cordially invites Temple members to a docent-led tour of several exhibits on display at the Museum of the Fashion Institute of Technology (Seventh Avenue at 27th Street). **As our tour begins promptly at 10 a.m., attendees must arrive 10 minutes prior.** After the tour, we will have lunch at Tre Dici Restaurant (128 West 26th Street). The cost for this event is \$50 for Women's Auxiliary members, \$60 for nonmembers and guests. Make checks payable to the Women's Auxiliary. Reservations must be received by Friday, December 1. No walk-ins will be allowed. (212) 744-1400, ext. 235

An Evening About Chocolate
Monday, December 11 6 p.m.

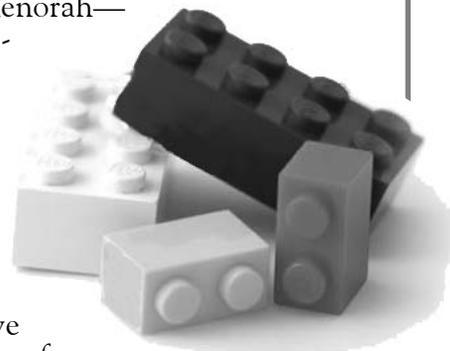
The Men's Club is sponsoring a special evening featuring Rabbi Posner, with a historical perspective about Chanukah, and Martine Leventer, owner and creator of Martine's Chocolates—upscale confections crafted daily by hand, using only the freshest and finest natural ingredients. Cost is \$25 for Men's Club members paying in advance, \$30 for all paying at the door. (212) 744-1400, ext. 250



FOR
FAMILIES

**Chanukah
Shabbat Dinner &
Building Blocks
Workshop**
Friday, December 8
6 p.m.

Religious School families are invited to participate in a truly special event. Temple Emanu-El is sponsoring construction of "the world's tallest" Chanukah menorah—a 400-square-foot model made completely from 50,000 LEGO® building blocks!



This two-hour intensive activity is one of several developed as educational tools for children and parents by New Jersey architect Stephen Schwartz through his "Building Blocks Workshops" initiative and the Jewish history construction series. (For more information, log on to www.buildingblocksworkshops.com.)

This event is organized as part of the Religious School Chanukah Shabbat dinner. Families are encouraged to join us for services in the Main Sanctuary at 5:15 p.m. RSVP by Monday, Dec. 4 to the Religious School office with the number of children and adults who will be attending. (212) 744-1400, ext. 226

**Women's Auxiliary:
Book Discussion Group**
Tuesday, December 12
10:30 a.m.



As part of our congregation-wide "Emanu-El Reads!" program, Temple librarian Elizabeth Stabler will lead a discussion session about Sherwin Nuland's *Maimonides* for Women's Auxiliary members. RSVP by Friday, December 8. (212) 744-1400, ext. 235

AROUND THE TEMPLE

Would Abraham really have killed Isaac if God hadn't intervened? Was Jacob a good guy or a bad guy? And who was Dinah (pronounced *Deena*), anyway?

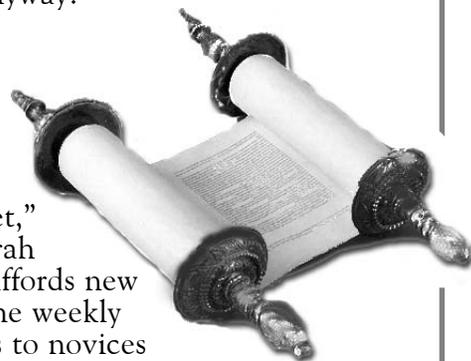
For the answer to these and other questions, Temple members and guests are invited to our weekly Torah study class—held at 9:15 a.m. every Saturday in the Community House, under the leadership of Rabbinic Intern Adam Rosenwasser.

“The human condition is our overarching theme,” Adam says. “At present, I would like to focus on the characters and emotions found in Genesis, including the emotions, decisions and, dare I say, ‘character’ of God him/herself. Some of the topics we will be covering include: Adam and Eve: Paradise Lost or Gained? Isaac and Ishmael: Beloved or Betrayed? and Rachel vs. Leah: Jacob’s Marital Problems.”

Long regarded by regular attendees as “Temple Emanu-El’s best-kept secret,” the weekly Torah study session affords new insights into the weekly Torah readings to novices and veterans alike.

As we read in *Pirkei Avot*, the *Sayings of the Fathers*, Ben Bag-Bag said, “Turn it (the Torah) and turn it again, for everything is in it.” So join us and let us turn together.

— Bettijane Eisenpreis



TEMPLE EMANU-EL BULLETIN



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Web site: www.emanuelnyc.org

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